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USA TODAY

September 8, 2003, Monday, FINAL EDITION

SECTION: LIFE; Pg. 6D**LENGTH:** 79 words**HEADLINE:** Astronomers snap shots of a rip-roaring pulsar**BODY:**

European Space Agency astronomers have captured the first images of a pulsar that is roaring through space at 20 times the speed of sound and creating a massive shock wave in its wake. A pulsar is a collapsed star, as heavy as the sun but compacted to about 10 miles in diameter, that emits radio waves. An image of the shock wave from the pulsar **Geminga**, traveling about 500 light-years from Earth, appears on the cover of the current edition of the journal *Science*.

GRAPHIC: PHOTO, B/W, ESA/XMM-Newton/Caraveo et al.**LOAD-DATE:** September 08, 2003

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